



Tuesday, April 29, 2008

## **SPORTS BRIEF: North HMVE team has successful showing**

### **THE PAPER**

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LINDEN - North Montgomery High School's Team HMVE Racing had a successful showing at the 2008 I.M.S.T.E.A. Super Mileage Challenge at O'Reilly Raceway Park in Indianapolis.

The competition was headed by current Super Mileage National Champion, Evansville's Mater Dei High School, who recently won a \$10,000 award from the Shell Oil Company for a competition performance in California.

With 40 Indiana high schools competing, Team HMVE Racing Stock entry managed to work through a few early minor problems to post runs of 220, 241, 270 MPG before the rain set in and dropped their performances to 231 and finally 160 MPG even with a broken pull cord bracket - hampering the restart of the killed engine, a technique used to extend the performance result.

The team's average for the 10-lap event was 247-plus MPG. This was not their best showing in the event's 12-year history.

But with the new wheel base requirements for a safer vehicle this year, the local team was pleased with the result.

"Many of the teams were not as fortunate as we were because they could not get the required 3-runs to score," team co-advisor Ed Stuffle said. "Our experience at getting in a measured run early, was a large benefit for us."

The Team HMVE Racing unlimited class entry was not so successful.

Coping with an early break in a front axle, the team feverishly worked to pass tech inspection, fueled the car, only to have another setback.

Following another hour of garage labor, the car was moved onto the starting grid in mid-afternoon only to experience a second broken axle.

"This was one of the most frustrating experiences for us at the competition," Stuffle said. "This group would have to be a leader in the running for a Tenacity Award for their work. They worked so hard and to have no scored runs was a disappointment for all of us."

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